ADULTERATION OF CURED ARECANUTS—STEPS FOR

237. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have read an article in the Malayalam Daily, "the Deepam" dated 3rd Dhanu 1117 written by one Mr. P. K. Kumaran of Irinjalakkuda under date 29th Vrischigam 1117 under the caption of "കള്ള അടക്ക വ്യാപാരത്തിൽ വ്യാജമോ? (അധികാരികളുടെ ശ്രദ്ധക്ക്)"

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any action in this matter to stop this sort of adulteration of cured arecanuts;

(*c*) whether the Sanitary Inspector, Trichur Municipality arrested from the Trichur Arecanut Market 2 or 3 arecanut merchants who adulterated cured arecanuts and levelled prosecution against them;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware at what stage those cases are now remaining;

(*e*) whether such practices are going on in the Ottupara arecanut market:

(*f*) whether the Government have taken any steps to stop these methods of cheating in Ottupara and other arecanut trading centres;

(*g*) whether the Government are aware that the price of Cochin arecanuts has gone down in markets out of the State because of such adulteration?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government are considering about the possibility of taking action in the matter.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise.

(*e*) The Department has not come across any adulterated variety of arecanut in the Ottupara Market.

(*f*) Not yet.

(*g*) No.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The reply to sub-division (*e*) is that the Department has not come across any adulterated variety of arecanut in the Ottupara market. May I bring to the

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notice of the Hon'ble Minister that I have come across such incidents in the Ottupara market. I am convinced about it. My point is, will the Government be pleased to enquire into that matter?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I shall issue orders to enquire about it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know, Sir, whether the parties who are selling adulterated arecanuts impose them upon the public saying that it is unadulterated stuff? My point is, what is the harm in their dealing in adulterated tapioca or any other thing when they do not say that it is cured arecanut.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: No such case has come to our notice. Of course it may be possible that people are dealing in adulterated arecanuts saying that it is unadulterated. I have heard rumours that they are giving something else for arecanuts.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: For my part the information is that they do not say it is cured arecanut. They say it is something else. They deal in it as a substitute for arecanut. The question is why should Government interfere with this as long as they do not deal in it saying that it is cured arecanut.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: If only there is any question of cheating or anything of the kind Government need interfere. If there is any cheating, Government should certainly take action, and my impression is that they do not say it is cured arecanut.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: This is a later development when this agitation began. At first these things were sold in place of pure arecanuts. But when this agitation began and when the fraud was found out, those who were interested in this industry began a propaganda by saying that it is only a substitute for arecanut.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: What I say is, are they not right to do it so long as they say it is not pure arecanut? It is something else which could be used as a substitute for arecanuts. Why not they do it?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: That is very doubtful.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: On a point of order, Sir, this has become a discussion between two members.

Mr. President: Such a discussion cannot be permitted during question time.

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മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്". പണിക്കർ : മധുരക്കിഴങ്ങും കൊള്ളിക്കിഴങ്ങും അടക്കയുടെ മാതിരി വെട്ടിനുറുക്കി കളയിട്ടു വില്ക്കുവാൻ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനെ തീരെ നിരോധിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലേ ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : അടക്കയാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു വില്ക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ നിരോധിക്കാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്". പണിക്കർ : അടക്കയായിട്ടല്ല, സംഗതി മനസ്സിലായതുകൊണ്ടു മധുരപ്പാക്കു എന്നുപറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു വില്ക്കുവാൻ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതിനെ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നാണു പറയുന്നതു".

Dr. A. R. Mneon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Regarding imitation, we will take not of it and see what is possible.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural) :* Have Government noted that by this imitation the arecanut merchants in Chittur are affected?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I will make an enquiry in the matter.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli) :* Not only the merchants, but the cultivators also are affected.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South) :* May I know, Sir, whether the price of such articles have not gone up now?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Therefore, is it not advantageous to the persons engaged in that sort of industry?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Cultivators may also be benefited.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* So, if Government give a preference to the arecanut cultivators, will it not discourage the other persons interested in other industries?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* All that we can do is to see whether these things are sold as arecanuts. If these things are sold saying that they are not arecanuts, how can we prevent that? Can we prevent anybody selling beet root or tapioca, etc? If beet root is sold as arecanut, then it is the duty of the Government to interfere.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is there not a provision in the Penal Code to penalise anybody who passes one thing for another?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Have the Government ever known that beet root is sold like this?

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No information.

Mr. C. K. VELAYUDHAN, A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF THE R. D. CENTRE—TREATMENT OF

238. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Mr. C. K. Velayudhan, a former employee in the Rural Development Centre, Cherpu, has complained to the Government that his room has been broken open without his permission;

(*b*) whether Mr. Velayudhan was not occupying a room in the Rural Development Centre, Cherpu;

(*c*) when did he occupy it last;

(*d*) whether any petition from Mr. Velayudhan about the incident referred to in (*a*) is pending enquiry at present?

A copy of the petition may be kindly placed on the Table of the House.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) 27th Meenam 1116/9th April 1941.

(*d*) The petition is not pending enquiry. A copy of it is placed on the table.

NADATHARA RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY—PARTICULARS REGARDING

239. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when was the Nadathara Rural Development Society registered as a Co-operative Society;

(*b*) the amounts paid to the Society from Government on different occasions in 1114, 1115, 1116 and 1117; the purpose for which amounts were paid and the terms on which payments were made;

(*c*) how and in what manner has the society utilised the funds granted by the Government;

(*d*) whether any officer of the Co-operative or Rural Development Department has ever checked the

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